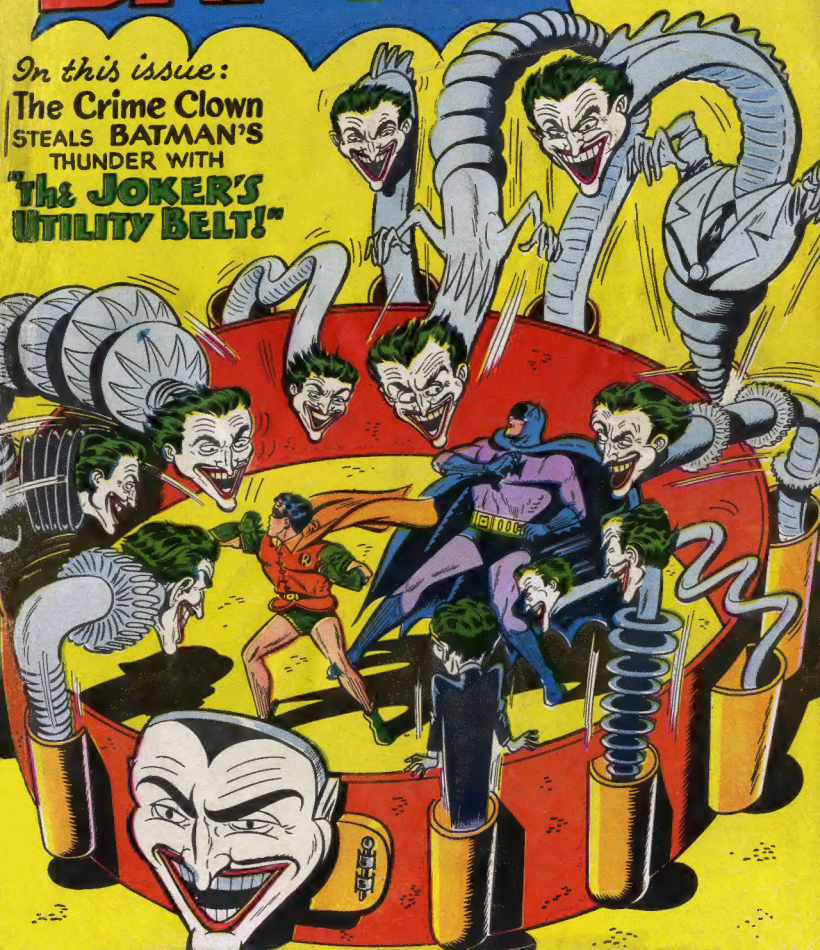


BATMAN

OCT.-NOV.
NO. 73
10c

In this issue:
The Crime Clown
STEALS BATMAN'S
THUNDER WITH
"The JOKER'S
UTILITY BELT!"





Binky asks

"WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE?"

IT'S BEEN WONDERFUL BEING WITH YOU THESE PAST FEW WEEKS. I'VE LEARNED SO MUCH ABOUT AMERICA...

SURE, COSETTE. YOU CAN TELL YOUR FRIENDS IN FRANCE ALL ABOUT OUR BIG BUILDINGS AND ELECTRIC GADGETS AND...



OH, NO, BINKY! THEY KNOW ABOUT THOSE THINGS. I'M GOING TO TELL THEM ABOUT THE WAY YOU LIVE. THEY'LL BE AS SURPRISED AS I WAS.



"...WHEN I TELL THEM HOW THE FAMILY DISCUSSES THINGS."

WAIT A SECOND, LUCY! LET ALLERGY GIVE HIS SIDE OF THE STORY!



"... HOW LUCY TAKES CHARGE WHEN MRS. BIGGS HAS TO GO TO A SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING ..."



HMMM...THIS IS ALMOST AS GOOD AS MOM'S, LUCY!

"... AND HOW WE ALL WENT TO CHURCH TOGETHER AND LATER TO A PICNIC ..."



BUT-- BUT WHAT'S SO SURPRISING ABOUT THOSE THINGS? DON'T YOU HAVE ALL THAT IN FRANCE?

YES-- BUT I HAD A DIFFERENT PICTURE OF AMERICAN FAMILIES!

YOU SEE, BINKY, PEOPLE OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES SOMETIMES HAVE FUNNY IDEAS ABOUT EACH OTHER.



"WE KEEP FORGETTING THAT EVEN DIFFERENT PEOPLE ARE OFTEN PRETTY MUCH ALIKE IN THE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR HAPPINESS."

I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, POP! COME TO THINK OF IT, MAYBE I HAVE A FEW FUNNY IDEAS ABOUT PEOPLE IN OTHER COUNTRIES, TOO!



THIS PAGE IS PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH LEADING NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE AND YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS.

BATMAN

With **ROBIN**
THE BOY WONDER

NOW, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE SEARCH-
ING SPOTLIGHT OF TRUTH IS TURNED
UPON ONE OF THE UNDERWORLD'S MOST
CLOSELY GUARDED ACTIVITIES! AS
BATMAN AND ROBIN CRASH THROUGH
THE WALL OF SILENCE WHICH SURROUNDS
CRIMEDOM'S MOST MYSTERIOUS
INDIVIDUAL, YOU WILL BE STUNNED
TO MEET THIS MAN FROM WHOM
PETTY THUG AND MASTER BANK ROBBER
ALIKE SEEK...

"GUNS FOR HIRE!"

INSTEAD OF
RENTING THIS
WEAPON, I'LL USE IT
MYSELF... "ON THE
HOUSE!" HA, HA!

HIGH-POWERED RIFLE
FOR EXECUTION OF
BATMAN - \$10,000

NO TIME LIMIT!

SUB-MACHINE GUN FOR
BANK JOBS \$300 DAILY



RENTAL FEE
PISTOLS
\$100.00 PER DAY

PENALTY FOR
OVERDUE WEAPONS:
\$100.00 PER DAY

THE
RENTER
HIMSELF!

LIGHT RIFLES
\$100 PER DAY

BOB
KANE

AS NIGHT DESCENDS ON GOTHAM CITY, THE ROUTINE CLOSING OF A CORNER STORE SUDDENLY BECOMES A MOMENT OF SHEER TERROR...

THIS IS A STICK-UP, BUD! HAND OVER YOUR CASH!

YES... YES! PLEASE... DON'T SHOOT!



AND A MOMENT LATER...

LOOK... A COP! THE STOREKEEPER'S GONNA CALL HIM!

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL TARGET HE MAKES IN THE WINDOW! BEFORE HE CAN MOVE, I'LL KNOCK HIM OFF LIKE A CLAY PIGEON!



PUT THE BAT DOWN! WE'RE SNEAKIN' OUT OF HERE THROUGH THE BACK DOOR! YOU SAP... DON'T YOU KNOW THIS PISTOL CAN ONLY BE USED FOR A HOLDUP? IF YOU USE IT TO KILL SOMEONE, WE'LL BE BLACKBALLED FOR LIFE!



SHORTLY AFTER, IN A SHADOWY DOORWAY IN ANOTHER PART OF THE CITY...

HERE'S THE BAT, CHARLEY... WE USED IT FOR JUST ONE HOLDUP!

OKAY, PETE... HERE'S YOUR RECEIPT!



A GUN THAT CAN BE USED ONLY FOR HOLDUPS? AND A RECEIPT GIVEN FOR THE SAFE RETURN OF A WEAPON OF CRIME? WHAT IS BEHIND THESE STRANGE EVENTS? TO SEEK THE ANSWER, LET US FIRST GO TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS, WHERE...

... IN THE OFFICE OF COMMISSIONER GORDON...

THERE'S ANOTHER CRIMINAL WE'LL HAVE TO RELEASE. BATMAN! LATELY, EVERY TIME WE PICK UP A MAN WE'RE CERTAIN IS GUILTY OF COMMITTING A CRIME WITH A GUN, IT'S THE SAME STORY!



THE MOST PAINSTAKING SEARCH FAILS TO TURN UP THE GUN USED IN THE CRIME! THE UNDERWORLD'S FIREARMS SEEM TO HAVE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!



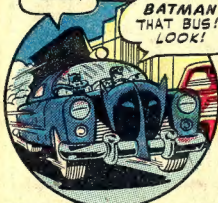
LATER, AS BATMAN AND ROBIN HEAD HOME...

EVEN THOUGH CROOKS DON'T SEEM TO HAVE FIREARMS, **ROBIN**, THERE'S BEEN NO LESSENING IN THE NUMBER OF CRIMES IN WHICH GUNS ARE USED!

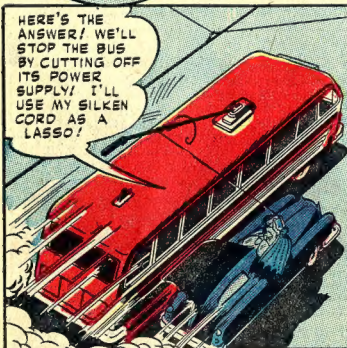
BATMAN!
THAT BUS!
LOOK!

ONE CROOK IS FORCING THE DRIVER TO GO AT FULL SPEED WHILE THE OTHER IS HOLDING UP THE PASSENGERS!

I DON'T DARE ATTACK THOSE CROOKS NOW! THEY MIGHT SHOOT THE DRIVER... AND THE BUS, WITH ALL ITS PASSENGERS, WOULD SMASH UP!

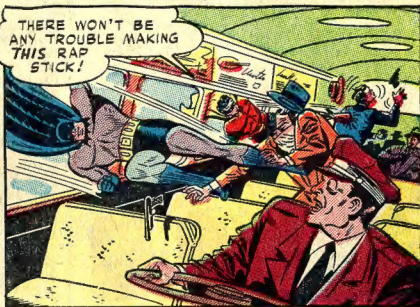


HERE'S THE ANSWER! WE'LL STOP THE BUS BY CUTTING OFF ITS POWER SUPPLY! I'LL USE MY SILKEN CORD AS A LASSO!



NEXT INSTANT, **TWIN TORNADOES** HURTLE INTO THE CROWDED VEHICLE, AND...

THERE WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE MAKING THIS RAP STICK!



BUT LATER, BACK AT HEADQUARTERS...

I GIVE UP, COMMISSIONER! I'VE GONE THROUGH ALL OUR BAT-CAVE AND THERE'S NOTHING LIKE THE ONES WE TOOK FROM THOSE CROOKS WHO TRIED TO ROB THE BUS!

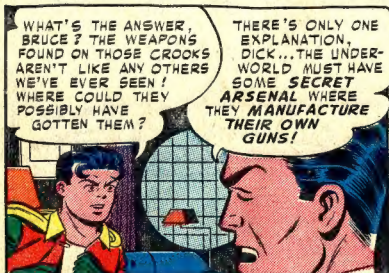
THE POLICE BALLISTICS DEPARTMENT CAN'T IDENTIFY THEM EITHER, **BATMAN!** BUT DR. HAGEN, THE WELL-KNOWN EXPERT ON FOREIGN WEAPONS, HAS KINDLY OFFERED TO LOOK AT THEM!



HMM... CURIOUS HAMMER STIRRUP PIN... UNUSUAL RECOIL PLATE... I'M SORRY, COMMISSIONER, BUT NEVER IN MY 20 YEARS OF STUDY OF THE WEAPONS OF EVERY NATION HAVE I SEEN ANYTHING LIKE THESE! THEY BELONG TO NO KNOWN CATEGORY!



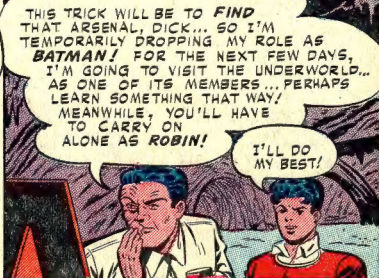
RETURNING HOME, THE CAPED CRIME-BUSTERS RESUME THEIR EVERYDAY IDENTITIES AS WEALTHY BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS YOUNG WARD, DICK GRAYSON...



WHAT'S THE ANSWER, BRUCE? THE WEAPONS FOUND ON THOSE CROOKS AREN'T LIKE ANY OTHERS WE'VE EVER SEEN! WHERE COULD THEY POSSIBLY HAVE GOTTEN THEM?

THERE'S ONLY ONE EXPLANATION, DICK...THE UNDERWORLD MUST HAVE SOME **SECRET ARSENAL** WHERE THEY MANUFACTURE THEIR OWN GUNS!

SHORTLY, IN THE SECRET CAVERN BENEATH THE WAYNE HOME KNOWN AS THE BAT-CAVE...



THIS TRICK WILL BE TO FIND THAT ARSENAL, DICK... SO I'M TEMPORARILY DROPPING MY ROLE AS **BATMAN!** FOR THE NEXT FEW DAYS, I'M GOING TO VISIT THE UNDERWORLD... AS ONE OF ITS MEMBERS...PERHAPS LEARN SOMETHING THAT WAY! MEANWHILE, YOU'LL HAVE TO CARRY ON ALONE AS **ROBIN!**

I'LL DO MY BEST!

AND SO, SEVERAL DAYS LATER, IN A HAUNT POPULAR WITH THE GOTHAM CITY UNDERWORLD...



HEY, CARSON... SINCE YOU GOT IN FROM KANSAS CITY, YOU BEEN SHOOTIN' OFF YOUR MOUTH THAT YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT GUNS! WELL, NOW YOU GOT A CHANCE TO PROVE IT! **THE RENTER** WANTS YOU BROUGHT OVER TO HIS PLACE!

YEAH? WELL, WHOEVER THIS "RENTER" IS, HE'LL FIND OUT SLUG CARSON CAN DELIVER AS GOOD AS HE TALKS! LET'S GO!

A MOMENT AFTER, IN A CAR PARKED NEARBY...

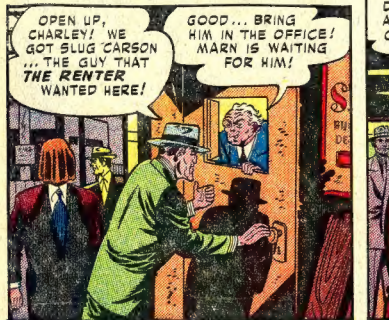


I'LL HAVE TO PUT THIS HOOD OVER YOUR HEAD SO YOU WON'T KNOW WHERE WE'RE GOIN'! THAT'S **THE RENTER'S** ORDERS!

FAIR ENOUGH!

SPREADING THE WORD AROUND THE UNDERWORLD THAT I'M AN EX-CON FROM KANSAS CITY, WHO'S AN EXPERT ON GUNS, IS PAYING OFF AT LAST!

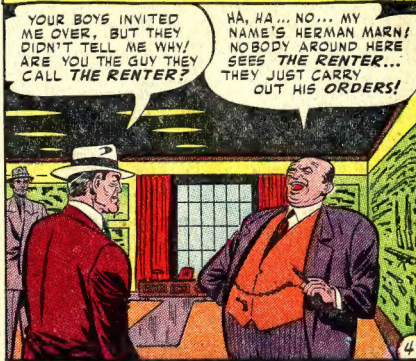
A SWIFT RIDE THROUGH THE CITY... AND SOON, IN A NARROW ALLEY...



OPEN UP, CHARLEY! WE GOT SLUG CARSON...THE GUY THAT **THE RENTER** WANTED HERE!

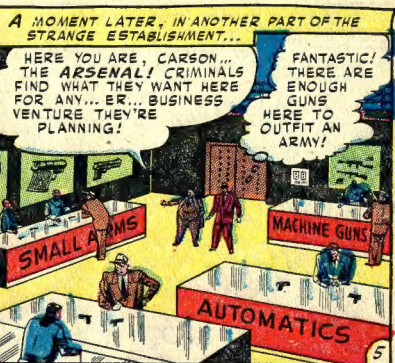
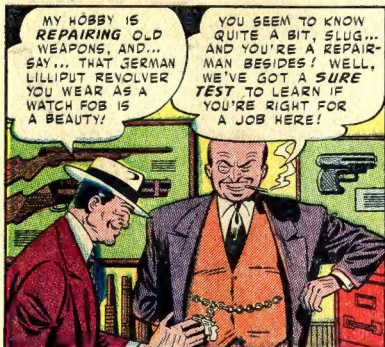
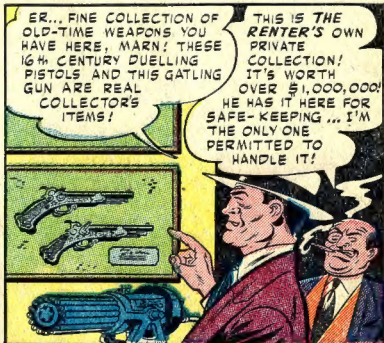
GOOD... BRING HIM IN THE OFFICE! MARN IS WAITING FOR HIM!

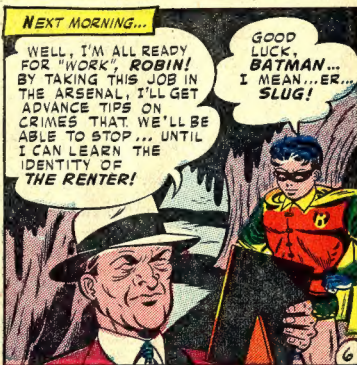
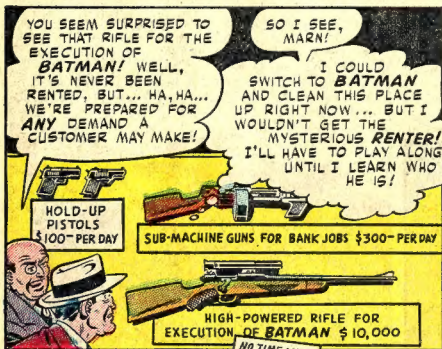
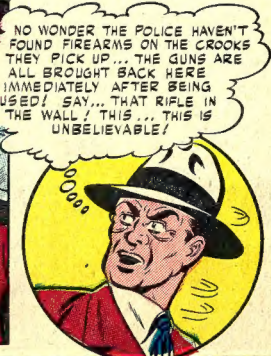
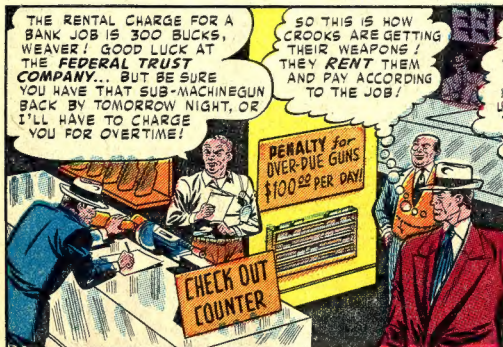
HIS HOOD REMOVED, "SLUG CARSON" IS USHERED INTO A LUXURIOUS OFFICE, WHERE...



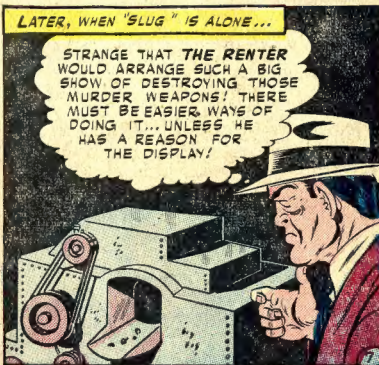
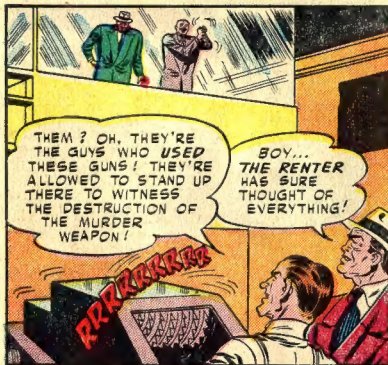
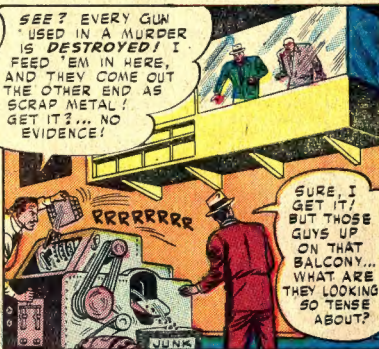
YOUR BOYS INVITED ME OVER, BUT THEY DIDN'T TELL ME WHY! ARE YOU THE GUY THEY CALL **THE RENTER?**

HA, HA... NO... MY NAME'S HERMAN MARN! NOBODY AROUND HERE SEES **THE RENTER...** THEY JUST CARRY OUT HIS ORDERS!





AND SOON AFTER, IN THE GUN REPAIR SHOP...



DEFT FINGERS RUN OVER THE STRANGE
DEVICE, UNTIL...

AH... HERE'S THE ANSWER...
A SECRET PANEL! THE
MACHINE ONLY APPEARS TO
DESTROY THE MURDER GUNS...
ACTUALLY, THEY REMAIN INTACT!
A NEAT RACKET FOR THE
RENTER IF HE EVER WANTS
TO BLACKMAIL HIS CLIENTS!



BUT AT THIS VERY MOMENT, IN ANOTHER PART
OF THE ARSENAL...

THIS DEVICE I INSTALLED
TODAY WILL CATCH ANY OF OUR
WORKERS WHO GET "LIGHT-FINGERED!"
IT'S CONNECTED AT THE EXIT TO A
SPECIAL ELECTRIC EYE, WHICH REACTS
TO GUN METAL AND... HUH?

LISTEN, MARN!
IT'S SOUNDING!



PRESENTLY...

HE'S CLEAN,
MARN... NOT A
GUN ON HIM! BUT
HOW COME HE SET
OFF THE ALARM?
IT ONLY REACTS
TO GUN METAL
AND LEAD!

HA, HA... SO I
SET OFF YOUR
ELECTRIC EYE, EH?
THAT'S VERY FUNNY!
DON'T YOU KNOW WHY
I'M CALLED "SLUG"?
IT'S BECAUSE I GOT A
BULLET FROM A COP'S
GUN IN ME... A SLUG!
GET IT?... THAT'S WHY
THE ALARM
SOUNDED!



SOME TIME AFTERWARD...

AT LAST... QUITTING TIME!
I'LL JUST TAKE ALONG ONE
OF THE MURDER PISTOLS...
THE BALLISTICS BOYS AT
HEADQUARTERS WILL FIND
IT INTERESTING, WHEN WE'RE
READY TO RAID THIS PLACE,
WE'LL GET THE REST OF THEM!



ALMOST IMMEDIATELY...

JUST A MINUTE, CARSON!
YOU SURE YOU AIN'T GOT
MORE THAN YOU CAME IN WITH
THIS MORNING? WE GOT AN
ELECTRIC EYE TO TRAP
GUYS WHO TRY TO WALK OUT
WITH THE RENTER'S
PROPERTY!

?GULP?
CAUGHT RED-
HANDED! I
CAN DROP
THE GUN IN
THIS WASTE
BASKET
BEFORE THEY
SEARCH ME...
BUT HOW DO I
EXPLAIN SETTING
OFF THE ALARM?



LATER, IN THE
BAT-CAVE...

GOLLY, BATMAN!
THAT WAS QUICK
THINKING... USING
THE NAME "SLUG"
TO GET YOU OUT
OF A JAM!

MORE IMPORTANT,
I GOT A LIST OF
TODAY'S "CUSTOMERS"
AND THE JOBS
THEY'RE PLANNING
TO PULL WITH THE
WEAPONS THEY
RENTED! IT LOOKS
LIKE A FULL NIGHT'S
WORK FOR US!



BUT NEXT MORNING...

THE OTHER DAY **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** WERE WAITING AT THE BANK TO NAB **WEAVER** WHEN HE TRIED TO PULL HIS JOB! AND LAST NIGHT, THEY WERE WAITING FOR TWO MORE OF OUR CUSTOMERS!

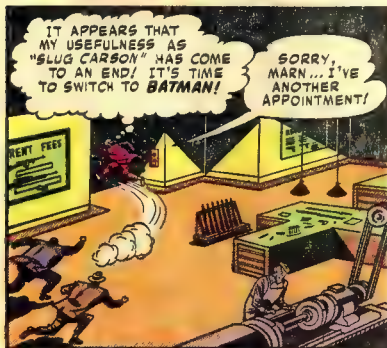
HMM... SOUNDS LIKE **BATMAN** KNEW ABOUT THE JOBS IN ADVANCE! THINK THE TIP CAME FROM HERE, MARN?

IT SURE SEEMS THAT WAY... AND THE ONE GUY IN THE PLACE WHO I HAVEN'T KNOWN FOR YEARS IS **SLUG CARSON**! BUT SINCE HE WAS BROUGHT HERE ON THE BOSS' ORDERS, THAT'S THE ONLY WAY HE CAN LEAVE! FOR THIS EMERGENCY, WE'LL CALL THE RENTER DOWN HERE IN PERSON!

MINUTES LATER, IN ANOTHER PART OF THE PLANT...

JUST A MINUTE, **CARSON**... OR WHOEVER YOU ARE! THE RENTER WANTS TO SEE YOU! YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO!

OH, OH... GUESS THIS HAD TO HAPPEN SOONER OR LATER!



SWIFTLY, THE DISGUISED LAWMAN DARTS INTO A SHADY HALL... BUT AS HE EMERGES IN COSTUME, MOMENTS LATER...

SO YOU'RE REALLY **BATMAN**, EH? WELL, YOU'LL NEVER GET OUT TO TELL WHAT YOU'VE LEARNED HERE! BY THROWING A SWITCH, VARIOUS SECTIONS OF THE PLANT CAN BE CUT OFF BY IRON BARS... LIKE THIS! WE INSTALLED THEM IN CASE WE WERE EVER RAIDED!

I... I'M TRAPPED!

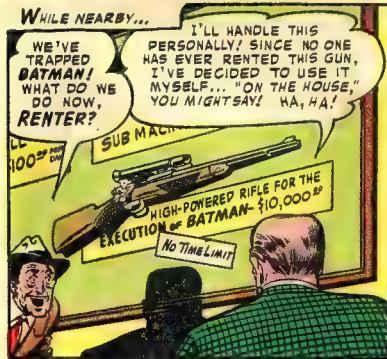


WHILE NEARBY...

WE'VE TRAPPED **BATMAN**! WHAT DO WE DO NOW, **RENTER**?

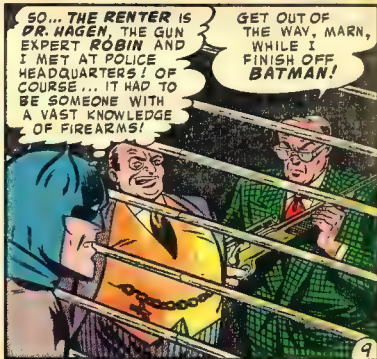
I'LL HANDLE THIS PERSONALLY! SINCE NO ONE HAS EVER RENTED THIS GUN, I'VE DECIDED TO USE IT MYSELF... "ON THE HOUSE," YOU MIGHT SAY! HA, HA!

SUB MACHINE GUN
HIGH-POWERED RIFLE FOR THE EXECUTION OF **BATMAN** - \$10,000.00
NO TIME LIMIT



SO... THE RENTER IS **DR. HAGEN**, THE GUN EXPERT **ROBIN** AND I MET AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS! OF COURSE... IT HAD TO BE SOMEONE WITH A VAST KNOWLEDGE OF FIREARMS!

GET OUT OF THE WAY, MARN, WHILE I FINISH OFF **BATMAN**!

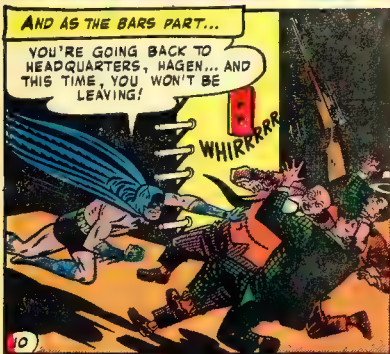
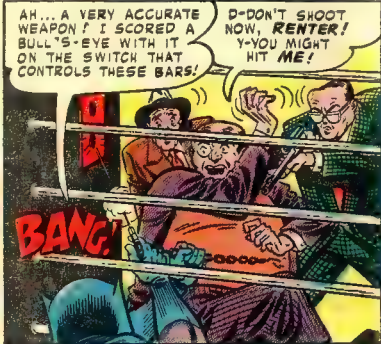
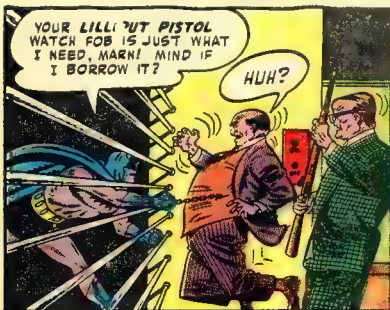




BATMAN



BUT BEFORE MARN CAN OBEY, BATMAN MAKES A LIGHTNING-LIKE MOVE...

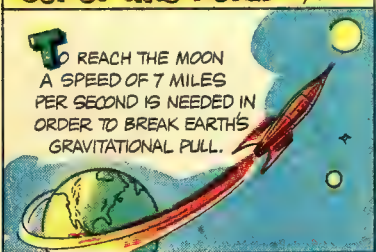


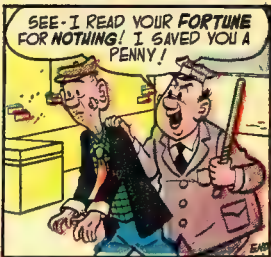
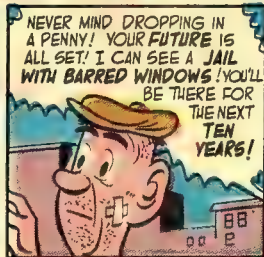
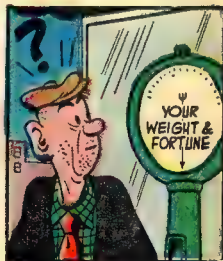
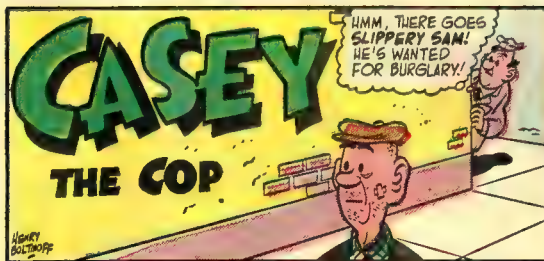
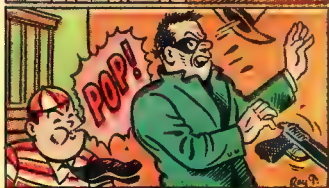
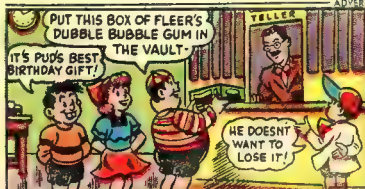
AND SO, HOURS LATER, IN THE BAT-CAVE'S FAMED TROPHY ROOM...



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OUT OF THIS WORLD by Necco





Two More Thrilling Magazines for **MYSTERY** Fans!

WE ALL KNOW
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS THE
SUPERNATURAL... WE KNOW
THERE'S ALWAYS A LOGICAL
EXPLANATION FOR WHAT SEEMS
TO BE WEIRD AND GLOOMY
AND UNEXPLAINABLE....



BUT IT'S FUN TO SEARCH
THROUGH THE MYSTERIOUS
DARK TUNNELS OF THESE
EXCITING STORIES IN SEARCH
OF THE TRUTH!



ON SALE
Everywhere!

YOU'RE SURE TO
ENJOY THEM!



BATMAN



BATMAN

With
ROBIN
THE BOY WONDER

BOB
KANE

"KEYS" BENNETT,
THAT'S ME: THE MAN
OF 1000 KEYS! AND
NOW TO COLLECT
MY GREATEST KEY--
THE KEY TO BATMAN'S
IDENTITY."

REMEMBER VICKI VALE, THE CUTE
SOCIETY PHOTOGRAPHER WITH A PERT
NOSE FOR NEWS, AND A YEN FOR
BRUCE WAYNE? WELL--THIS TIME
VICKI'S "DETECTIVE WORK" TAKES HER
IN OVER HER HEAD--SO DEEP IN FACT
THAT SHE PULLS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** IN
AFTER HER! AND THE **DARING DUO** IS
FORCED TO WAGE A FURIOUS BATTLE
FOR SURVIVAL IN ORDER TO SOLVE...

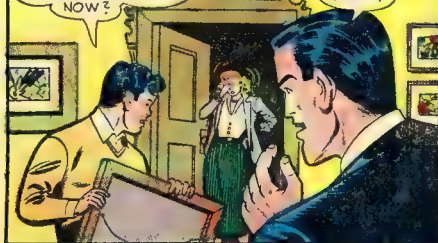
**"VICKI VALE'S
Secret!"**



ONE WARM EVENING, AS PROMINENT SOCIALITE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON, RECEIVE AN UNEXPECTED GUEST...

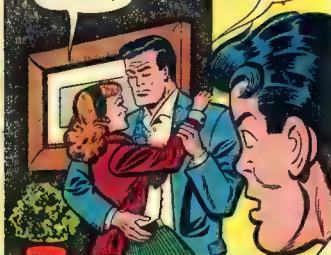
VICKI VALE! WHAT'S THE TOWN'S PRETTIEST PHOTOGRAPHER UP TO NOW?

WAIT, DICK! SOMETHING'S WRONG! WHAT IS IT, VICKI?



MY LIFE'S BEEN THREATENED! I (SOB) WAS NEARLY KILLED! I'VE PUT MYSELF IN (SOB) TERRIBLE DANGER!

YOUR LIFE'S BEEN THREATENED? BUT WHO-- WHY?



I CAN'T TELL YOU! I'M SCARED, BRUCE! YOU HAVE TO HELP ME! DON'T ASK QUESTIONS! PLEASE-- LET ME HIDE HERE FOR A WHILE-- TILL I COLLECT MY WITS!



MOMENTS LATER, AS ALFRED, BRUCE'S BUTLER, BRINGS VICKI SOME WATER...

POOR KID! SHE'S IN A STATE OF COLLAPSE! WE'LL PUT HER UP IN THE GUEST ROOM--AND THEN WE'LL TRY TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS!

RIGHT!



AND WHEN VICKI HAS RETIRED TO AN UPSTAIRS ROOM, BRUCE AND DICK RACE THROUGH SECRET PASSAGEWAYS TO--THE BAT-CAVE!

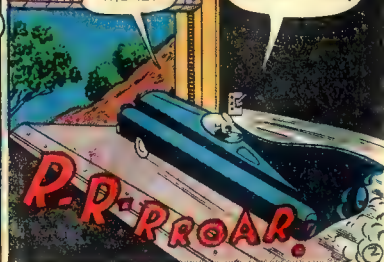
I WONDER WHAT VICKI WOULD SAY IF SHE KNEW HOW CLOSE SHE WAS TO BATMAN AND ROBIN TONIGHT?

NEVER MIND THAT! IT LOOKS LIKE WE'VE GOT OUR WORK CUT OUT FOR US! AND REMEMBER--BE ALERT, DICK! VIGILANCE PAYS OFF!



WE'LL TRY VICKI'S APARTMENT FIRST! THERE MAY BE SOME CLUES TO THIS MYSTERY THERE!

I HOPE SO! IT'S TOO HOT A NIGHT FOR A WILD GOOSE CHASE!



R-R-RROAR!

SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, AS THE **DATING DUO** ENTERS VICKI'S APARTMENT...

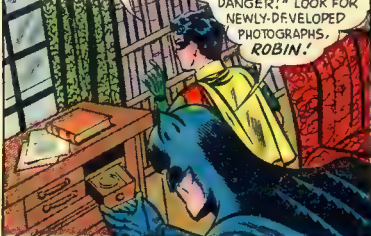
WHEW! IT SURE IS HOT! THIS FAN WILL HELP COOL THINGS SOMEWHAT. NOW--LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN FIND.



AND, AS A DETERMINED SEARCH GETS UNDER WAY...

I CAN'T GET OVER THE WAY VICKI LOOKED TONIGHT! SHE REALLY WAS TERRIFIED!

SHE MAY HAVE STUMBLED ON SOMETHING REAL HOT IN HER WORK! REMEMBER--SHE TOLD US, "I'VE **PUT MYSELF** IN TERRIBLE DANGER!" LOOK FOR NEWLY-DEVELOPED PHOTOGRAPHS, **ROBIN!**



THEN...

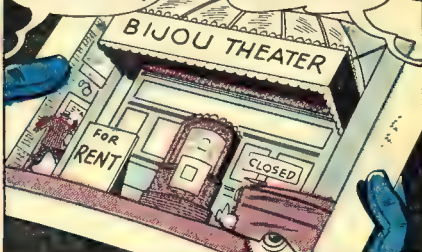
BATMAN! LOOK! A PHOTOGRAPH-- FOLDED UP IN **TODAY'S** PAPER!

LET'S HAVE A LOOK AT IT-- QUICK!



WHY, IT'S THE OLD **BIJOU THEATER**, **BATMAN!** IT'S BEEN CLOSED FOR YEARS! VICKI MUST HAVE BEEN SHOOTING SOME OF OUR LANDMARKS!

ROBIN! THAT MAN, WEARING **KNICKERS!** THAT'S A TRADE-MARK OF "**KEYS**" **BENNETT**-- THE GANGSTER WANTED BY THE POLICE! AND HE **LOOKS** LIKE BENNETT, TOO!



BUT IF IT IS BENNETT, WHY WOULD HE BE SNEAKING INTO AN **EMPTY** THEATER?

IT COULD BE HIS HIDEOUT! THE POLICE NEVER **DID** FIND IT! COME ON--WE'LL TAKE A LOOK!

IT ALL FITS! BENNETT MUST HAVE SPOTTED VICKI SNAPPING THE PICTURE--AND THREATENED HER LIFE IF SHE REVEALED IT!

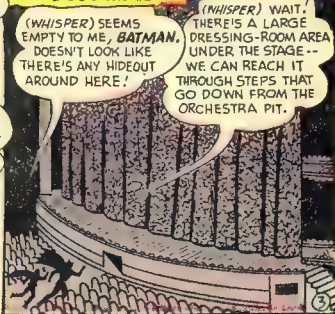
YES, AND WE'VE GOT TO BRING IN THAT CHARACTER BEFORE HE MAKES HIS THREAT COME TRUE.



SHORTLY AFTERWARDS, IN THE DARKNESS OF THE **BIJOU THEATER**...

(WHISPER) SEEMS EMPTY TO ME, **BATMAN**. DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THERE'S ANY HIDEOUT AROUND HERE!

(WHISPER) WAIT! THERE'S A LARGE DRESSING-ROOM AREA UNDER THE STAGE-- WE CAN REACH IT THROUGH STEPS THAT GO DOWN FROM THE ORCHESTRA PIT.



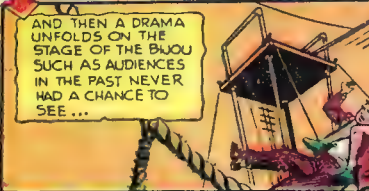
SUDDENLY, THE GREAT CURTAINS PART!

IT'S **BATMAN AND ROBIN!**
COME ON, MEN--HERE'S
OUR CHANCE!

QUITE A STAGE
SHOW, EH, **ROBIN?**
AND TO THINK WE'VE
GOT THE BEST SEATS
IN THE HOUSE!



AND THEN A DRAMA
UNFOLDS ON THE
STAGE OF THE BWOU
SUCH AS AUDIENCES
IN THE PAST NEVER
HAD A CHANCE TO
SEE ...



WHAT'S
THE MATTER?
LOSE YOUR
BALANCE?

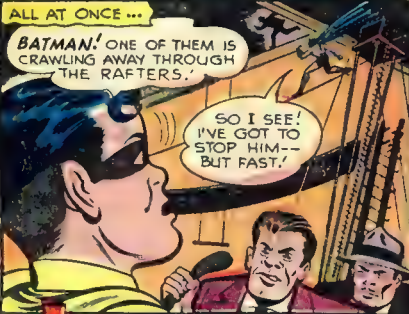
JUST CALL
ME THE DARING
YOUNG MAN ON
THE FLYING
TRAPEZE!



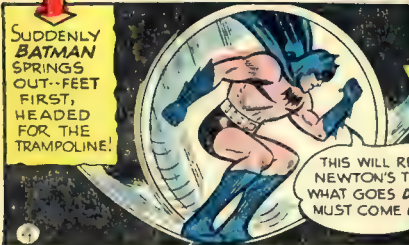
ALL AT ONCE ...

BATMAN! ONE OF THEM IS
CRAWLING AWAY THROUGH
THE RAFTERS!

SO I SEE!
I'VE GOT TO
STOP HIM--
BUT FAST!



SUDDENLY
BATMAN
SPRINGS
OUT--FEET
FIRST,
HEADED
FOR THE
TRAMPOLINE!



LIKE A COIL OF RAW STEEL, **BATMAN** HITS
THE TRAMPOLINE--AND SPRINGS UP WITH THE
SPEED OF A BULLET!

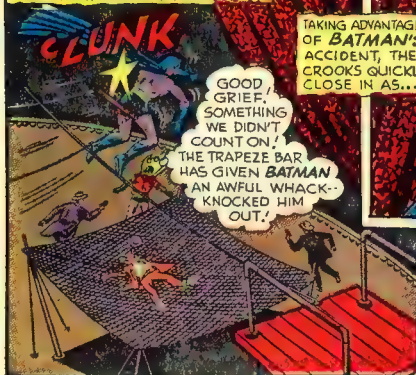
LEGGO!
LEGGO!
OWWW!

DOWN YOU
COME, MY FRIEND!
GRAB HIM WHEN HE
HITS THE NET,
ROBIN!

THIS WILL REVERSE
NEWTON'S THEORY!
WHAT GOES DOWN
MUST COME UP!



BUT THEN, SUDDEN DISASTER!

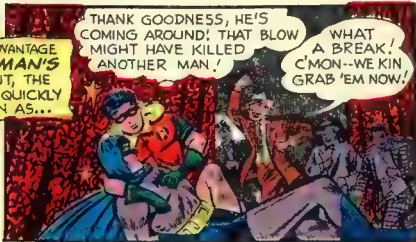


TAKING ADVANTAGE OF **BATMAN'S** ACCIDENT, THE CROOKS QUICKLY CLOSE IN AS...

GOOD GRIEF! SOMETHING WE DIDN'T COUNT ON! THE TRAPEZE BAR HAS GIVEN **BATMAN** AN AWFUL WHACK--KNOCKED HIM OUT!

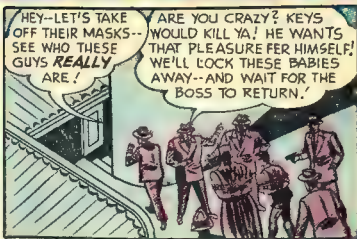
THANK GOODNESS, HE'S COMING AROUND! THAT BLOW MIGHT HAVE KILLED ANOTHER MAN!

WHAT A BREAK! C'MON--WE KIN GRAB 'EM NOW!



HEY--LET'S TAKE OFF THEIR MASKS-- SEE WHO THESE GUYS **REALLY** ARE!

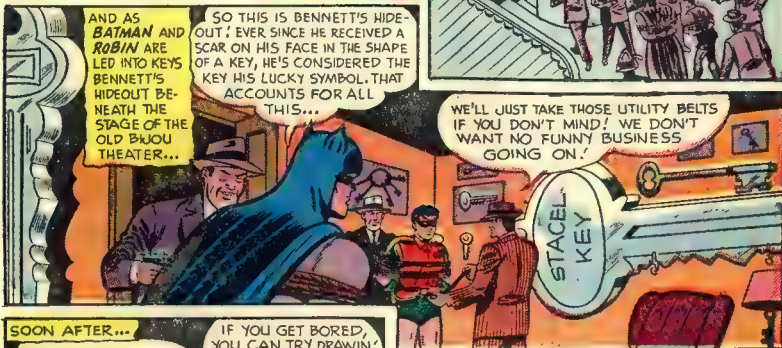
ARE YOU CRAZY? KEYS WOULD KILL YA! HE WANTS THAT PLEASURE FER HIMSELF! WE'LL LOCK THESE BABIES AWAY--AND WAIT FOR THE BOSS TO RETURN!



AND AS **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** ARE LED INTO KEYS BENNETT'S HIDEOUT BENEATH THE STAGE OF THE OLD BUJOU THEATER...

SO THIS IS BENNETT'S HIDE-OUT! EVER SINCE HE RECEIVED A SCAR ON HIS FACE IN THE SHAPE OF A KEY, HE'S CONSIDERED THE KEY HIS LUCKY SYMBOL. THAT ACCOUNTS FOR ALL THIS...

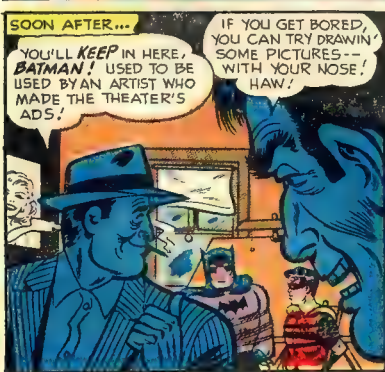
WE'LL JUST TAKE THOSE UTILITY BELTS IF YOU DON'T MIND! WE DON'T WANT NO FUNNY BUSINESS GOING ON!



SOON AFTER...

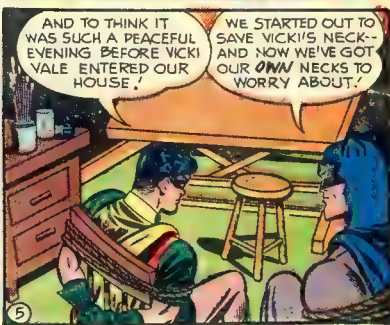
YOU'LL **KEEP** IN HERE, **BATMAN**! USED TO BE USED BY AN ARTIST WHO MADE THE THEATER'S ADS!

IF YOU GET BORED, YOU CAN TRY DRAWIN' SOME PICTURES-- WITH YOUR NOSE! HAW!



AND TO THINK IT WAS SUCH A PEACEFUL EVENING BEFORE VICKI VALE ENTERED OUR HOUSE!

WE STARTED OUT TO SAVE VICKI'S NECK-- AND NOW WE'VE GOT OUR **OWN** NECKS TO WORRY ABOUT!

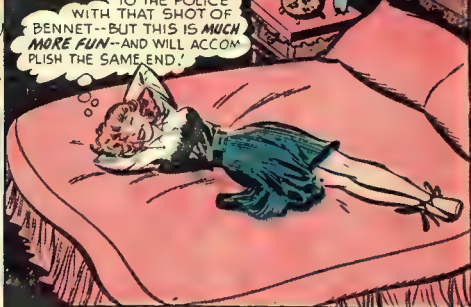


AND WHAT OF VICKI? IF **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** COULD ONLY SEE HER AT THAT MOMENT, THEY'D HAVE THE **SHOCK** OF THEIR LIVES!

TEE-HEE! OH, HOW THEY FELL FOR IT! MY LONG-LIVED SUSPICION THAT **BRUCE** IS **BATMAN** MAY WELL BE PROVEN **TONIGHT**! THEY WENT FOR MY BAIT LIKE TWO STARVED FISH! TEE-HEE!



I COULD HAVE GONE STRAIGHT TO THE POLICE WITH THAT SHOT OF BENNET--BUT THIS IS **MUCH MORE FUN**--AND WILL ACCOMPLISH THE SAME END!



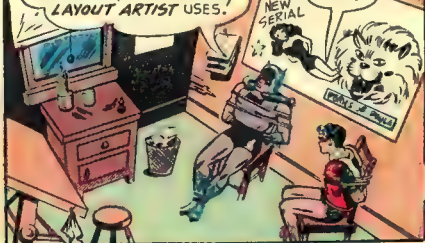
IF THEY WENT TO MY APARTMENT, AS I'M SURE THEY HAVE--AND MADE **ONE** SLIP, THEIR GOOSE IS COOKED! FOR THERE'S A NICE LITTLE HIDDEN **RECORDING MACHINE** PICKING UP EVERY WORD THEY SAY!



MEANWHILE, AT BENNETT'S HIDEOUT...

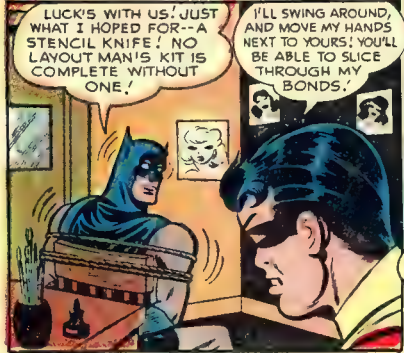
WE'VE GOT ONE CHANCE, **ROBIN**--IF THAT CABINET HASN'T BEEN CLEANED OF ALL THE EQUIPMENT A **LAYOUT ARTIST** USES!

WELL--WE CAN ROCK OURSELVES OVER THERE AND SEE!



LUCK'S WITH US! JUST WHAT I HOPED FOR--A STENCIL KNIFE! NO LAYOUT MAN'S KIT IS COMPLETE WITHOUT **ONE**!

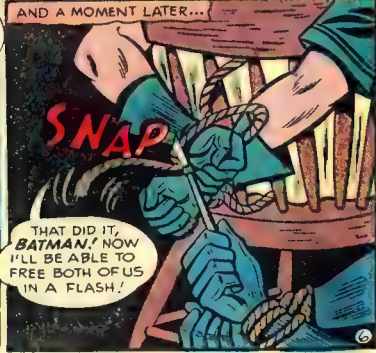
I'LL SWING AROUND, AND MOVE MY HANDS NEXT TO YOURS! YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SLICE THROUGH MY BONDS!

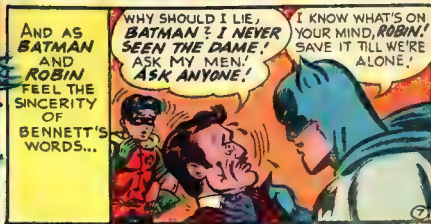
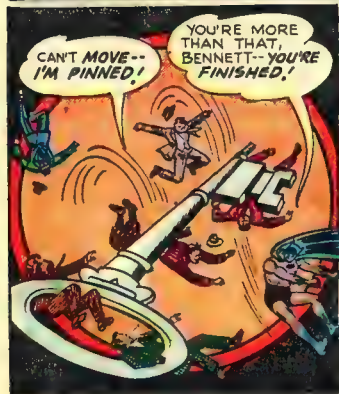
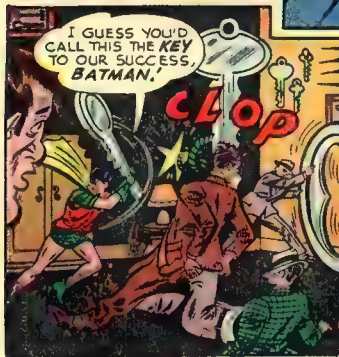
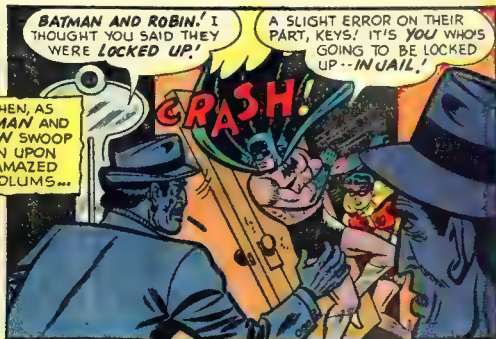
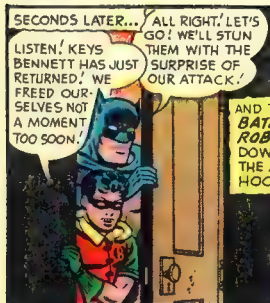


AND A MOMENT LATER...

SNAP

THAT DID IT, **BATMAN**! NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO FREE BOTH OF US IN A FLASH!







A HALF-HOUR LATER, AFTER BENNETT AND HIS MEN HAVE BEEN TURNED OVER TO THE POLICE...

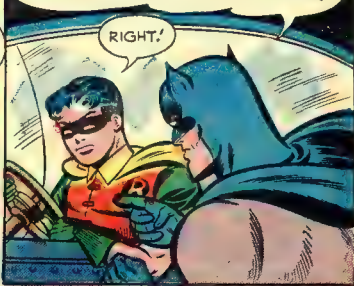
VICKI PULLED A FAST ONE, **BATMAN**. SHE'S ALWAYS HAD A NOTION THAT BRUCE WAYNE WAS **BATMAN**-- AND TONIGHT SHE CAUGHT US OFF-GUARD!

YES--SHE TRICKED US INTO GOING TO HER APARTMENT AND GETTING INVOLVED IN THIS CASE! WE'VE GOT SOME REAL THINKING TO DO, **ROBIN**!



YOU'D BETTER GET BACK TO THE HOUSE IMMEDIATELY! STALL VICKI--PLAY DUMB! I'LL JOIN YOU AS SOON AS I CAN!

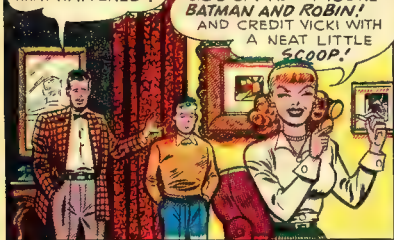
RIGHT!



AND LATER, IN THE WAYNE MANSION...

WHY, VICKI!-- I THOUGHT YOU WERE SLEEPING --NOT FEELING WELL! WHAT HAPPENED?

DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE RADIO? **BATMAN** JUST CAPTURED KEYS BENNETT! OH, COME ON, BOYS--THE JIG'S UP! ADMIT YOU'RE **BATMAN AND ROBIN**! AND CREDIT VICKI WITH A NEAT LITTLE SCOOP!



FOR INSTANCE, HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN YOUR ABSENCE TONIGHT, WHILE **BATMAN WAS NABING BENNETT**? AND HOW DID **BATMAN** LEARN OF BENNETT'S HIDEOUT, IF NOT FROM MY PICTURE, LEFT IN MY APARTMENT?

BUT THAT'S SIMPLE, VICKI! AS SOON AS WE HEARD OF YOUR FLIGHT, WE HUNTED DOWN **BATMAN** AND TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT IT!



A GLIB ANSWER! UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T PROVE YOU'RE WRONG! HOWEVER--SUPPOSE YOU ACCOMPANY ME TO MY APARTMENT! I'D LIKE YOU TO LISTEN TO A RECORD!

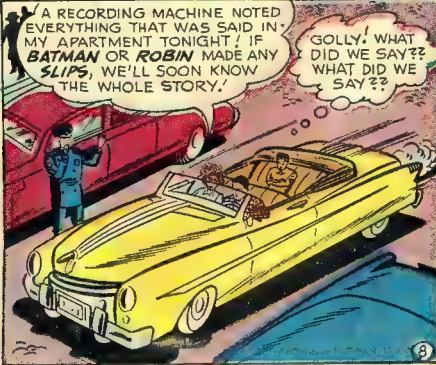
WHY NOT?

A RECORD! I DON'T LIKE THIS!



A RECORDING MACHINE NOTED EVERYTHING THAT WAS SAID IN MY APARTMENT TONIGHT! IF **BATMAN OR ROBIN** MADE ANY SLIPS, WE'LL SOON KNOW THE WHOLE STORY!

GOLLY! WHAT DID WE SAY?? WHAT DID WE SAY??



AND AS DICK'S MIND RACES BACK THROUGH THE EVENTS OF THE EVENING...

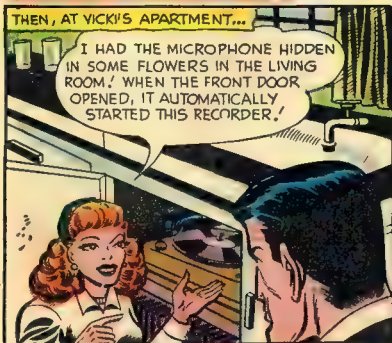
I CAN'T GET OVER THE WAY VICKI LOOKED TONIGHT! SHE REALLY WAS TERRIFIED!

REMEMBER--SHE TOLD US, "I'VE PUT MYSELF IN TERRIBLE DANGER!"



THEN, AT VICKI'S APARTMENT...

I HAD THE MICROPHONE HIDDEN IN SOME FLOWERS IN THE LIVING ROOM. WHEN THE FRONT DOOR OPENED, IT AUTOMATICALLY STARTED THIS RECORDER!



I'LL KNOW IF THIS IS THE RECORD I LEFT IN THE MACHINE. YOU SEE--I RECORDED MY VOICE ON IT FIRST, TO TRADEMARK IT!



AND AS VICKI TURNS THE RECORD ON...

THIS IS VICKI VALE SPEAKING--I HOPE THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR WILL BE BATMAN'S!

WHAT'S THE MATTER, DICK--NERVOUS?



SUDDENLY, A STEADY HUM OF STATIC...

HUMMMMMMMM...

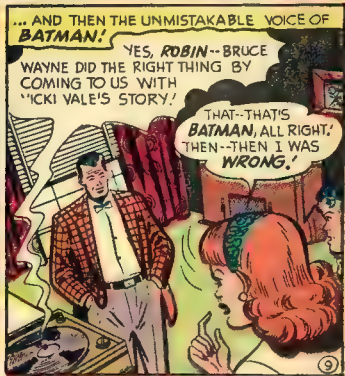
GOLLY, I HOPE NOTHING WENT WRONG!



... AND THEN THE UNMISTAKABLE VOICE OF BATMAN!

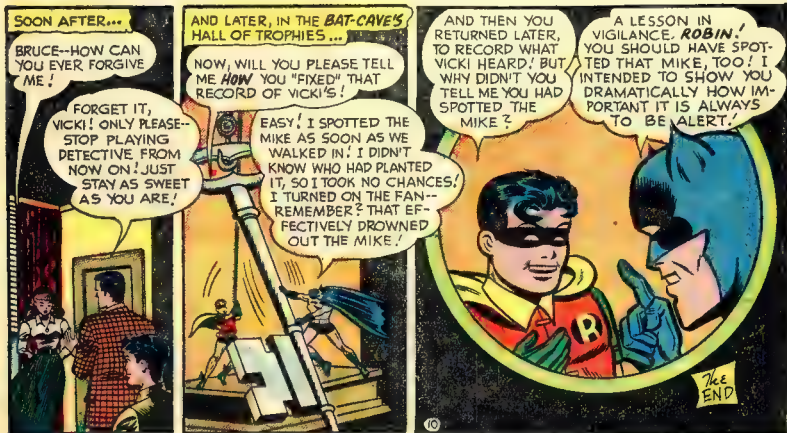
YES, ROBIN--BRUCE WAYNE DID THE RIGHT THING BY COMING TO US WITH VICKI VALE'S STORY!

THAT--THAT'S BATMAN, ALL RIGHT! THEN--THEN I WAS WRONG.





BATMAN



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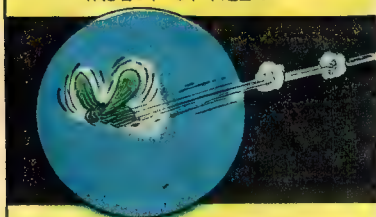
MORE PEOPLE EARN THEIR
LIVING RAISING AND HARVESTING
WHEAT.... THAN IN ANY OTHER WORK!

WHOSE SIGNATURE HAS BEEN
FORGED MOST OFTEN?



THE SIGNATURE FORGED **MOST** IN
HISTORY IS THAT OF ANTONIUS
STRADIVARIUS... WHO MADE THE
FAMOUS STRADIVARIUS VIOLINS!

WHAT IS THE **FASTEST-FLYING**
INSECT OF ALL?



THE **BOY FLY!** IT ATTAINS A SPEED
EXCEEDING 800 MILES AN HOUR!

CAN PLANTS GROW THROUGH
SOLID ICE?



YES! FOR EXAMPLE THE **SOLDINELLA**
FLOWER OF SWITZERLAND... FORCES
ITS WAY THROUGH SOLID ICE...
IN THE DIRECTION OF THE SUN!

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'I wish he'd get interested in a girl
and start using Wildroot Cream-Oil'

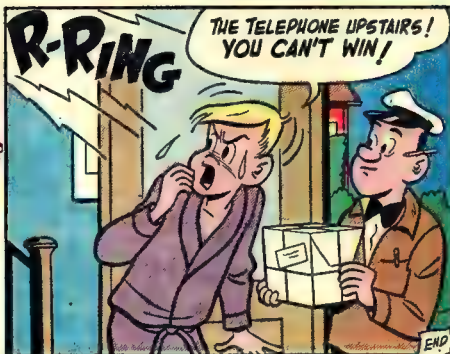
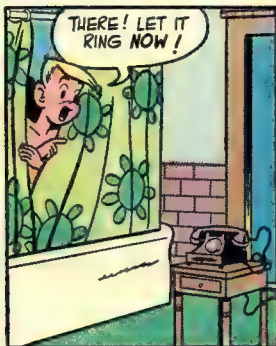
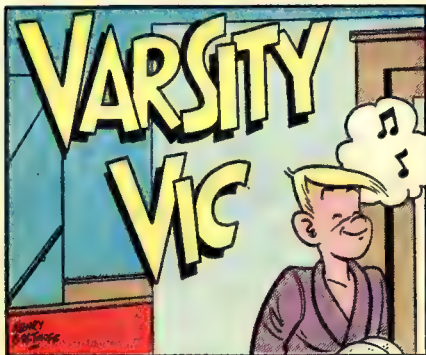


**"YOUR HAIR'S
BEST FRIEND"**

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Finger Print Forgeries

Criminals Go to Great Lengths to Fool the Police, But None of Their Tricks Is Successful

SINCE fingerprinting was officially adopted as a means of positive identification more than 50 years ago, it was perhaps inevitable that criminals would set themselves to work to defeat the system. Some did so for the simple purpose of concealing their own identities. Others tried it for the more direct object of creating forgeries.

It may be well to state right at the outset that, while a fingerprint can be forged, no attempt so far as is known, ever succeeded in stumping the experts.

The simplest method of forging a fingerprint is—by copying. From a technical standpoint, there are no real problems in making a mechanical reproduction of a print.

A British expert, Nigel Morland, writing in the English magazine, *Discovery*, relates the case of a criminal who possessed, to a remarkable degree, the instinct of self-preservation. This ingenious crook's fingers were just itching to get hold of considerable loot the rogue knew existed in a nearby office which provided easy access.

The only trouble was, he feared, even if he left no prints, the police would immediately suspect that he had had a hand in the matter. His long experience as a safe-cracker made his method and style of work quite familiar to the minions of the law. Clearly, the crook's job here was not to cover his own tracks by leaving no fingerprints at all—but to leave a false trail **BY LEAVING BEHIND SOMEONE ELSE'S FINGERPRINTS.**

This sounds like a hopeless and formidable task—but, as we mentioned above, the hoodlum was ingenious—and hit upon what he considered a fool-proof plan. This is what he did.

He obtained a copy of the right index finger of an accommodating fellow criminal, impressed with India ink. From this he made a rubber stamp of the print, cleaned it with alcohol, and then set out to commit his crime.

Wearing gloves, he proceeded to collect and pocket his loot. He then took the rubber stamp, and held it against his cheek until it was warm and damp. Finally, he pressed the stamp on the polished surface of a desk, where the police might reasonably expect to find a fingerprint.

The police did. And it took them almost no time at all to pronounce it the result of a rubber stamp. Two flaws gave it away. First of all, the pressure on the stamp had bent the rubber lines (which represented the ridges of the fingerprint) in such a way that the impression appeared blurred.

The second flaw was due to the moisture picked up by the stamp when the criminal held it against his cheek. The moisture gave the print a spotty, uneven effect. Neither of these flaws is ever present in a natural fingerprint.

The crook guessed right about one thing anyway. He had been sure that the police would almost automatically suspect him of

the job. They did. He was picked up the following day.

Morland tells of still another criminal who tried the rubber stamp gimmick. But instead of using the print of someone else, this one decided to create a wholly non-existent fingerprint. He happened to be an expert penman, and a forger of vast experience.

When police were confronted with a sample of his work, however, they almost died laughing. The size was exact, but there were even more ridges per unit than there are in the fingerprint of a newborn baby. You see, the number of ridges falling within a unit-space is 15 to 18 for a newborn child, and 9 to 10 for an adult.

But what gave the police their biggest laugh was the utter confusion of the "artist" who had left a number of ridge lines "in the air" because he didn't know where to connect them, or how to round them off. Take a look at your own thumb under a magnifying glass, and you'll have some idea of the forger's dilemma.

There have been other attempts at forgery, all equally as "successful." One hoodlum went to the trouble of preparing a pair of gloves on which thin layers of latex consisting of forged prints had been glued to the fingers.

This device enabled the criminal to use the gloved hands as if they were normal hands—but the prints left looked as if they belonged to someone "out of this world."

Cellulose tape has also been used for purposes of forgery. Here, the tape is laid, sticky side down, on an existing fingerprint which has been left by someone other than the criminal. The print is picked up by the sticky substance, and when the criminal, later, breathes on it and then presses it on a bottle or smooth glass, a faint but true copy of the original is left.

The criminal who devised this method was more than sure that he had at last licked the system. But, fortunately, this ruse

didn't fool the police any more than the others. In this instance, the police took one good look at the strange sticky substance that covered the print, and scornfully scoffed, "Hm—cellulose!"

Failing to forge prints, criminals have made some remarkable attempts to alter or obliterate their own. But they learned the hard way that a fingerprint is virtually as indestructible as flesh. This was graphically demonstrated in the *Laboratoire de Police Technique*, in Lyons, France, where Dr. Edmond Locard, director, and another expert subjected their fingers to boiling water, hot oil, and pressure on hot plates. Their fingerprints never changed.

One case is told of a wily criminal who almost—but not quite—beat the fingerprint system. In this case, a series of crimes had occurred where a fingerprint was always discovered on the scene of the crime.

Careful examination of the print suggested that it came from the finger of a very tall man. For the print was huge, and every test showed it had been made in the natural way. In other words, it was a legitimate print.

Police forces were alerted and a search instituted for a giant, despite the fact that some of the burglaries indicated that only a small man could have used the means of entry. Quite by chance, a criminal was caught on the scene, just as he had completed a burglary. The familiar giant-sized print was found on a desk, but it didn't even resemble the print of the captured crook, who only measured five foot five inches.

Just as the police began a second search for an accomplice, one scientific criminologist had an inspiration. He forced the criminal to remove his shoes and socks, and then proceeded to examine his feet.

He found what he was looking for—the mysterious print was that of the little man's big toe!

—by Jack E. Miller

J
O
K
E
R

YOU KNOW ALL ABOUT
BATMAN'S UTILITY BELT!
YOU'VE SEEN IT IN ACTION--
SEEN HOW IT HELPED
BATMAN AND ROBIN OUT
OF MANY A TIGHT SQUEEZE
IN THEIR NEVER CEASING
WAR AGAINST CRIME!

BUT-- CAN YOU IMAGINE
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN **THE**
JOKER, THAT INFAMOUS
CRIME CLOWN, STEALS
A MARCH ON **BATMAN**,
AND COMES UP WITH A
UTILITY BELT OF HIS
OWN?

DON'T WASTE A MOMENT--
START READING RIGHT
NOW THE STORY CALLED

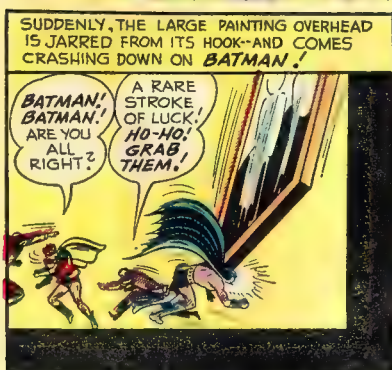
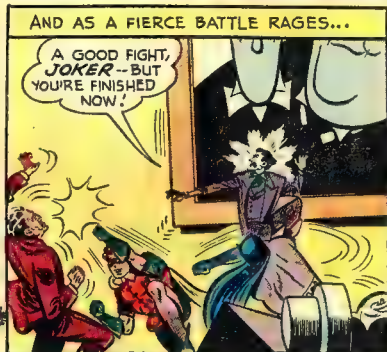
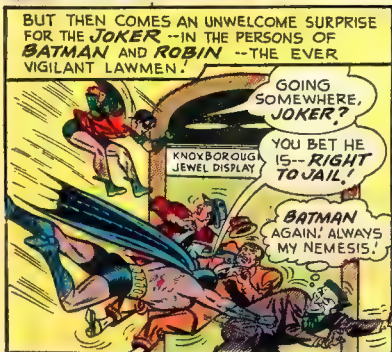
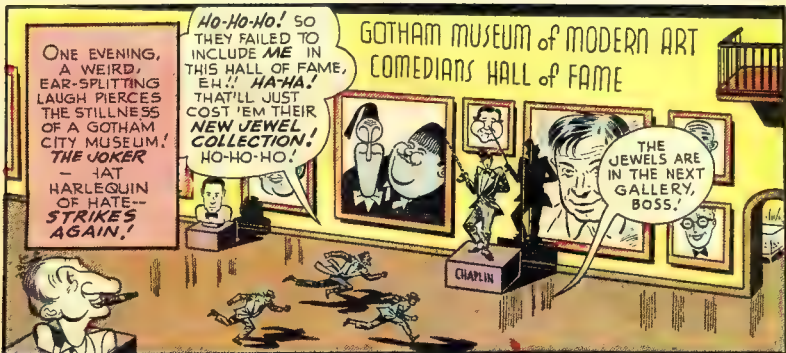
**"The JOKER'S
UTILITY BELT!"**

J
O
K
E
R

BATMAN

AND
ROBIN





A MOMENT LATER...

(WHISPER) **ROBIN!**

ALL RIGHT,
YOU TWO!
GET
MOVIN'!

THEY'VE FORGOTTEN
WE HAVE OUR UTILITY
BELTS! I'M GOING TO
USE THE GAS PELLETS!
BE READY WITH YOUR
NOSE FILTERS!

I HATE
THE SIGHT
OF GUNS--
DON'T YOU,
ROBIN?

SUDDENLY...

GAS! I'VE
GOT TO GET
OUT OF HERE!

AND LATER...

TOO BAD WE
COULDN'T GET THE
JOKER, TOO! BUT
THE DAY WASN'T
ENTIRELY WASTED!

I'LL BET-THE
JOKER'S PLENTY
MAD! WHAT A BLUNDER
--FORGETTING ABOUT
OUR UTILITY
BELT!

HOW RIGHT **ROBIN** IS! AT THAT VERY MOMENT,
IN THE "JEWEL ROOM" OF THE NOTORIOUS
CRIME CLOWN'S HIDEOUT...

ANOTHER PROJECT
OF MINE **UPSET--**
BECAUSE OF **BATMAN**
AND THAT
CONFOUNDED
UTILITY BELT!

THAT **BELT**
IS MOIDER, **BOSS!**
IT GIVES **BATMAN**
THE EDGE, ALL
THE TIME!

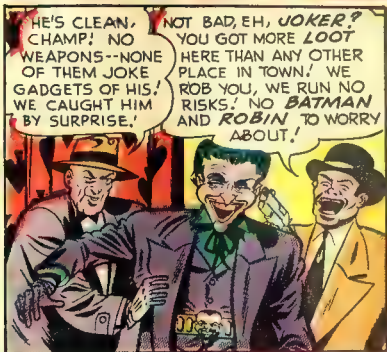
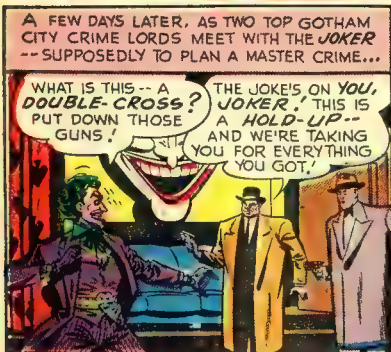
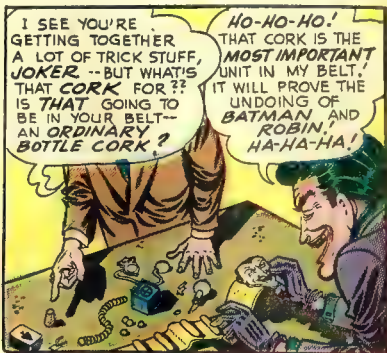
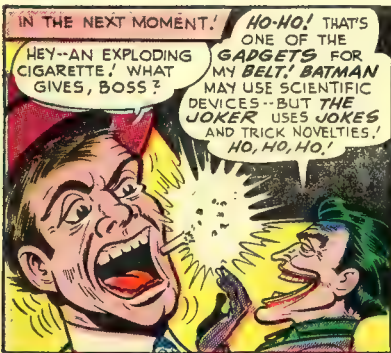
ABRUPTLY, AN IDEA COMES TO THE **JOKER**--
TURNING HIS WRATH TO WICKED JOY!

THE **EDGE**, EH?? YOU'VE
GIVEN ME AN **IDEA!**
HO-HO! WHY NOT
A **UTILITY BELT**
FOR ME, THE
JOKER! MY
OWN KIND OF
UTILITY BELT!
HA-HA-HA!
THEN I'LL
HAVE THE
EDGE.
HO-HO!
HO!

AND THE NEXT DAY...

WHAT'S
COOKIN',
BOSS?

MY **UTILITY BELT!**
HA-HA! IT'S ALMOST
FINISHED! HERE--HAVE A
CIGARETTE, WHILE YOU
WATCH...



NEXT EVENING IN THE PALATIAL HOME OF MILLIONAIRE BRUCE WAYNE AND HIS WARD, DICK GRAYSON...

BOY, THIS MODEL IS A BEAUTY, BRUCE! AS CHIEF STOCKHOLDER OF THE STEAMSHIPLINE, YOU CAN BE PROUD OF YOUR NEW SHIP!

I AM! AND I'M ALSO PROUD THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN WERE SELECTED TO CHRISTEN THE S.S. GOTHAM AT ITS LAUNCHING CEREMONY NEXT MONTH!

ALL AT ONCE, AN EERIE BEAM STABS THROUGH THE SKY--THE **BAT-SIGNAL!**

SPEAKING OF BATMAN AND ROBIN--LOOKS LIKE WE'RE WANTED RIGHT NOW!

RIGHT! AND I SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISED IF OUR FRIEND, THE JOKER, WERE THE REASON!



A QUICK CHANGE OF COSTUME, AND BATMAN AND ROBIN RUSH TO POLICE HEADQUARTERS!

THE JOKER, BATMAN! HE'S LOOTED THE BOX OFFICE AT THE CIVIC OPERA!

THEN WE'RE GOING TO THE OPERA, TOO!

MEANWHILE, AS THE JOKER FLEES BACKSTAGE AT THE OPERA...

I'VE BLUNDERED--TOO MANY COPS AND GUARDS! THEY PROBABLY GUESSED I, THE GREAT CLOWN THAT I AM, COULDN'T RESIST AN OPERA LIKE "PAGLIACCI!"

THEN, AS THE JOKER RUNS INTO A DEAD END, AND IS CAPTURED...

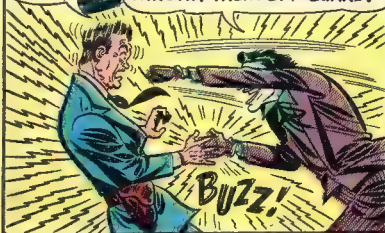
I'VE STILL GOT A CHANCE--THANKS TO MY UTILITY BELT! I'LL MAKE BELIEVE I'M HITCHING UP MY TROUSERS...

THEY'RE UNARMED! PUT THE CUFFS ON THE JOKER, MAC! HE'LL PULL NO MORE TRICKS ON US!

AS THE POLICEMAN GRABS THE **JOKER'S** HANDS, READY TO SLIP ON THE HANDCUFFS...

OUCH!
HEY, WHAT'S
GOING ON?!

HA-HA! JUST THE
DIVERSION I NEEDED!
GET THEM, MEN! WE'VE
THROWN THEM OFF-GUARD!



AND WHEN **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** HEAR THE STORY AT THE OPERA HOUSE...

HE DIDN'T HAVE
THAT BUZZER ON,
WHILE WE WERE
CHASING HIM. HE
PULLED IT OUT OF
SOMEWHERE, AT
THE VERY LAST
MOMENT!

HMMM! LOOKS
LIKE THE **JOKER**
HAS A NEW ANGLE.
ROBIN! I EXPECT
WE'LL BE SEEING
SOME MORE OF IT!



THEN, AS THE **JOKER** AND HIS MEN
MAKE GOOD THEIR ESCAPE...

HA-HA! MY UTILITY
BELT PAYS OFF AGAIN.
I FIND IT VERY USEFUL!
HO-HO!

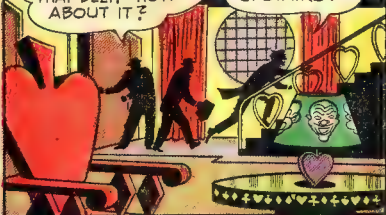
A HAND-
BUZZER!
BOY--IT SURE
STARTLED
THAT COP!



LATER...

YOU KNOW SOMETHING,
BOSS? YOU NEVER
DID SHOW US **ALL**
THE STUFF YOU GOT IN
THAT BELT! HOW
ABOUT IT?

HA-HA!
CERTAINLY, BOYS--
CERTAINLY!
COME--I'VE GOT
A LARGE CROSS-
SECTION DIAGRAM
OF IT
UPSTAIRS!



AND THIS IS WHAT
THE
CRIME
CLOWN
SHOWS
HIS MEN.

The JOKER'S UTILITY BELT



HAND
BUZZER



SNAKE
PELLETS



SNEEZING
POWDER
CAPSULES



ITCHING
POWDER
CAPSULES



FALSE
CIGARETTE
PACK, WITH
JUMPING JACK
MECHANISM
INSIDE



EXPLODING
CIGARETTES



EYEPIECE WHICH
LEAVES VIEWER
WITH A BLACK
EYE



MEXICAN
JUMPING
BEANS



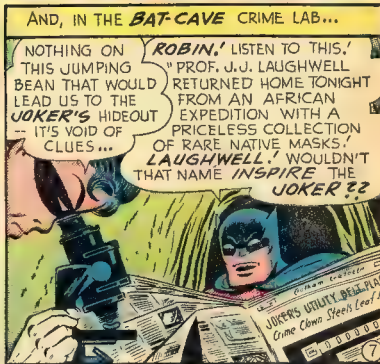
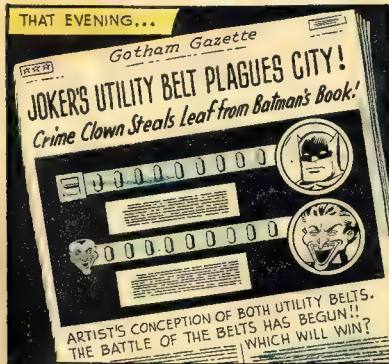
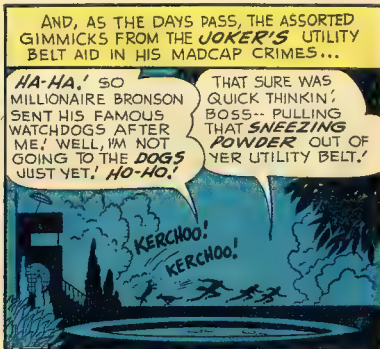
FLOWER
PELLETS
THAT
BURST INTO
BLOOM

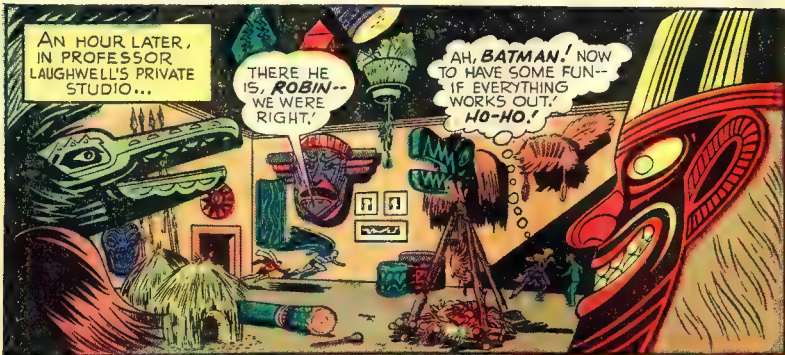


PLAYING
CARDS



SMALL
CORK





AN HOUR LATER,
IN PROFESSOR
LAUGHWELL'S PRIVATE
STUDIO...

THERE HE
IS, **ROBIN**--
WE WERE
RIGHT!

AH, **BATMAN**! NOW
TO HAVE SOME FUN--
IF EVERYTHING
WORKS OUT!
HO-HO!

AND ONCE MORE, THE **DEADLY ENEMIES**
OF GOTHAM CITY CLASH IN HAND-TO-HAND
COMBAT!

THIS IS **ONE** TIME
YOUR UTILITY BELT
ISN'T GOING TO SAVE
YOU, **JOKER**!

HA-HA! YOURS
WON'T BE MUCH HELP
EITHER, I DARESAY!
HO-HO!



SUDDENLY, THE AGILE **CRIME-JESTER**
WRIGGLES FROM **BATMAN'S** GRASP!
AND THEN...

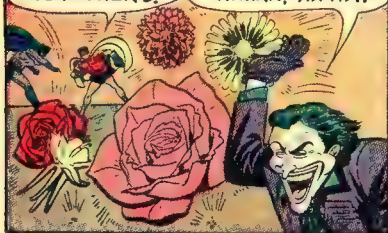
HOLD IT, **ROBIN**! THIS
HAS GONE FAR ENOUGH!
TIME TO SHOW WHAT A
UTILITY BELT CAN DO!
PREPARE FOR GAS!



QUICKLY **BATMAN** SEIZES HIS GAS PELLETS,
HURLS THEM THROUGH THE AIR! BUT THEN--
BEFORE HIS AMAZED EYES!

**BATMAN! DID YOU
SEE THAT?** THOSE
GAS-PELLETS **BURST**
INTO FLOWERS!

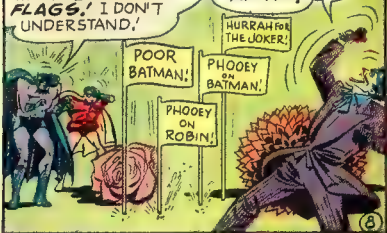
HO-HO! I NEVER
THOUGHT YOU'D THROW
ME **BOUQUETS**,
BATMAN! **HA-HA!**



HIS GAS PELLETS GONE, **BATMAN**
FRANTICALLY HURLS HIS **SMOKE PELLETS**!
BUT--**MORE AMAZEMENT!**

ROBIN-- THOSE
WERE MY **SMOKE**
PELLETS! BUT LOOK--
THEY'VE **BURST** INTO
FLAGS! I DON'T
UNDERSTAND!

HO-HO-HO!
I'VE NEVER HAD
SO MUCH FUN!
HA-HA!



SUDDENLY, THE **JOKER** DARTS FOR A DARK CORNER, AND AS **BATMAN** FISHES FOR HIS POWERFUL UTILITY BELT FLASHLIGHT...

THIS IS **TOO MUCH!** A JACK-IN-THE-BOX!

BUT-- HOW? HOW COULD THE **JOKER** TAMPER WITH OUR UTILITY BELT?

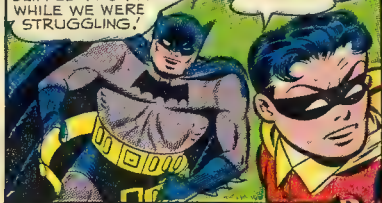
Ho-Ho-Ho!
HA-HA-HA!!



AND THEN, AS THE SIMPLE ANSWER COMES TO THE DYNAMIC DUO...

LOOK! THIS **ISN'T MY BELT**--- BUT A CLEVER IMITATION WHICH FITTED RIGHT OVER MINE! THE **JOKER** MUST HAVE SLIPPED IT ON ME WHILE WE WERE STRUGGLING!

NO WONDER EVERYTHING WENT HAYWIRE! WELL-- IT'S TOO LATE NOW! THE **JOKER'S** GONE...



LATER...

I'M AFRAID WE WERE MADE TO LOOK LIKE FOOLS, **ROBIN!** BUT AT LEAST WE GAINED ONE OBJECTIVE, WE PREVENTED ANOTHER **JOKER CRIME!**

RIGHT! IT'S SMALL CONSOLATION-- BUT AT LEAST IT'S SOMETHING!

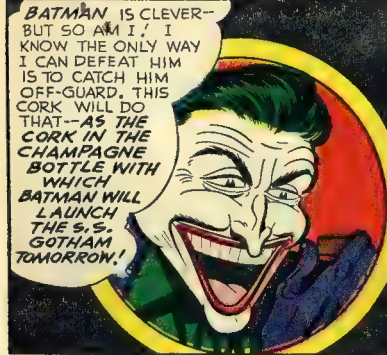


A FEW DAYS LATER...

MEN--THE DAY WE HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR IS ALMOST HERE-- THE DAY WHEN **THIS CORK** MARKS THE DOWNFALL OF **BATMAN AND ROBIN!** HO-HO!



BATMAN IS CLEVER-- BUT SO AM I! I KNOW THE ONLY WAY I CAN DEFEAT HIM IS TO CATCH HIM OFF-GUARD. THIS CORK WILL DO THAT-- AS THE CORK IN THE CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE WITH WHICH **BATMAN** WILL LAUNCH THE S.S. GOTHAM TOMORROW!



AND THAT EVENING, IN THE OFFICES OF THE GOTHAM STEAMSHIP COMPANY...

FINISHED, **JOKER!** WE PUT **YOUR CORK** IN THE CHAMPAGNE BOTTLE, RE-SEALED IT WITH WAX! NOW WHAT??

HA-HA! NOW WE PUT THE BOTTLE BACK WHERE WE FOUND IT! TOMORROW, WHEN **BATMAN** FLINGS IT AGAINST THE PROW OF THE SHIP, PARALYZING GAS WILL ESCAPE FROM THAT CORK! IT WILL BE SIMPLE TO WHISK **BATMAN** AND **ROBIN** OFF!



NEXT DAY, WITH THE LAUNCHING CEREMONIES ABOUT TO BEGIN...

HERE'S THE BOTTLE, **BATMAN**. WE SHOULD BE READY IN A FEW MINUTES.

THANK YOU...

HMM--THAT'S FUNNY!

ROBIN-- NOTICE THE COLOR OF THE WAX--IT HASN'T FADED AT ALL! YET THIS IS 1936 CHAMPAGNE-- AND PARAFFIN WAX IS KNOWN TO DISCOLOR WITH AGE.

WHICH MEANS THAT BOTTLE MAY HAVE BEEN TAMPERED WITH--AND RE-SEALED! WE'D BETTER NOT TAKE CHANCES! I'LL GET ANOTHER ONE!

SOON AFTER...

WORSE LUCK! THAT SHARP-EYED **BATMAN** MUST HAVE SPOTTED SOMETHING! THEY'VE CHANGED BOTTLES--ALL MY PLANNING HAS FAILED!

THEN, AS THE GREAT SHIP IS LAUNCHED!

... AND I NAME YOU THE S.S. GOTHAM!

HURRAH! BON VOYAGE! GOOD LUCK!

SUDDENLY, AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT!

I WANT TO HAVE FUN, TOO! **HURRAH!**

SHE TOOK THE ORIGINAL BOTTLE, AND THREW IT, AND LOOK-- SOME SORT OF GAS!

WHAT A LUCKY BREAK! HO-HO! COME ON, MEN!

BEFORE THE VAUNTED LAWMEN TAKE ANY PRECAUTIONS, THEY ARE STRUCK BY THE POWERFUL GAS! AND AS THE **JOKER** TAKES ADVANTAGE OF THE CONFUSION...

HELP!

GASP!

COUGH!

HURRY, MEN! I CAN'T WAIT TO GET BACK TO THE HIDEOUT WITH OUR PRIZES! I MUST DREAM UP A SPECIAL FATE FOR THESE TWO!

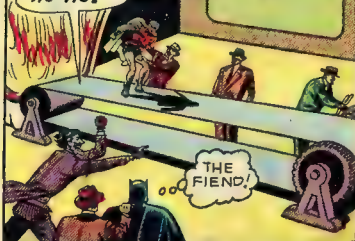
AND LATER, AT THE **JOKER'S** HIDEOUT, THAT SPECIAL FATE IS READY FOR THE TWO CAPTURED CRIME-FIGHTERS.

HA-HA-HA! NOW THAT I'VE WON THE BATTLE OF THE **UTILITY BELTS**-- I'VE GOT ANOTHER **BELT FOR YOU, BATMAN!** A **CONVEYOR BELT.** **HO-HO-HO.**

WHAT A GAG! ONCE THEY'RE ON THAT BELT, THEY'LL RUN THEMSELVES RAGGED TRYIN' TO PREVENT BEING DRAGGED INTO THE FIRE!

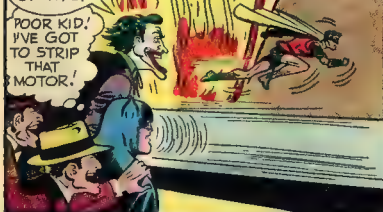


HA-HA! LET'S SEE HOW **ROBIN** RUNS, FIRST! START THE MOTOR! START THE **BELT MOVING!** **HO-HO.**



Ho-Ho-Ho! I GET A **TERRIFIC BELT** OUT OF THIS!

POOR KID! I'VE GOT TO STRIP THAT MOTOR!



THE **JOKER'S** **UTILITY BELT**-- IF I CAN JUST SLIP MY HAND INSIDE IT WITHOUT BEING SEEN!

BATMAN'S STARING AT THE **JOKER'S** **UTILITY BELT.** HOW CAN THAT **SILLY BAG** OF TRICKS BE OF ANY HELP?



UNNOTICED, **BATMAN'S** DEFT FINGERS SLIP INTO A COMPARTMENT OF THE **JOKER'S** **UTILITY BELT.** A MOMENT LATER...

THE **SNAKE PELLETS.** NOW TO PROPEL THEM THE WAY A CHILD PROPELS A MARBLE! THE MOTOR'S HEAT SHOULD PRODUCE THE SNAKES!

WHAT IN THE WORLD...! YOUR **TRICK SNAKES, JOKER!** THEY'VE FOULED UP THE GEARS--STOPPED THE MOTOR!



IN THE NEXT MOMENT...

NOW, **ROBIN!** LEAP CLEAR!

MY BELT! **BATMAN'S** GRABBED MY BELT!



AND THEN AS **BATMAN** RANSACKS THE **JOKER'S** BELT, PANDEMONIUM BREAKS OUT.



SNEEZING POWDER!

OWW! MY EYE!

I CAN'T STAND IT! ITCHING POWDER ALL OVER ME!

GIVE ME THAT SQUIRTING BADGE, BATMAN-- I'VE GOT AN IDEA!

NICE OF YOUR CONVEYOR-BELT MOTOR TO HAVE A FULL CUP OF **OIL, JOKER!** HOLD MAKES EVERYTHING RUN SO **SMOOTHLY!**

GASP! CAN'T SEE!

HOLD 'EM, ROBIN! I'LL HAVE THIS BELT CONVEYOR LOOSE IN A JIFFY!

A SECOND LATER...

WOW! THIS IS THE BIGGEST CATCH WE EVER HAULED IN!

I ALWAYS SAY-- ONE GOOD BELT DESERVES ANOTHER!



AHH! THAT MAKES THE PICTURE PERFECT! YOU'LL BE THE HIT OF THE FLOWER SHOW, JOKER--IF THEY HAVE ONE IN THE STATE, PENITENTIARY.

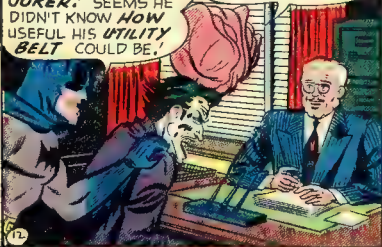
YOU KNOW SOMETHING, JOKER? YOU HAVE A FINE UTILITY BELT! WITHOUT IT, WE MIGHT NEVER HAVE CAPTURED YOU!



AND LATER, AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS...

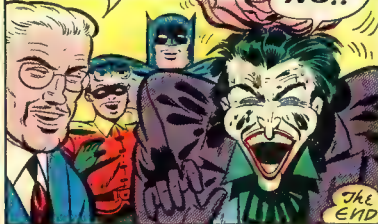
HERE HE IS, COMMISSIONER--YOUR OLD FRIEND, THE **JOKER.** SEEMS HE DIDN'T KNOW **HOW** USEFUL HIS **UTILITY BELT** COULD BE!

BELTS, BELTS! I'VE HAD ENOUGH WITH BELTS! ALL I WANT TO DO IS FORGET THEM!



THAT'S TOO BAD, **JOKER!** YOU SEE-- I'VE ALREADY RECOMMENDED THAT **YOU** BE MADE **FOREMAN** AT THE BELT FACTORY IN THE PRISON. WE NEED A MAN WITH **YOUR** EXPERIENCE.

OH, NO!!



THE END

HERE'S EXPLOSIVE ADVENTURE IN **2 MORE GREAT MAGAZINES!**



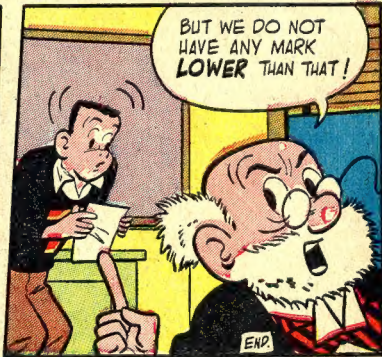
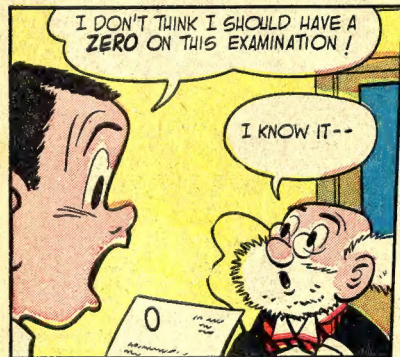
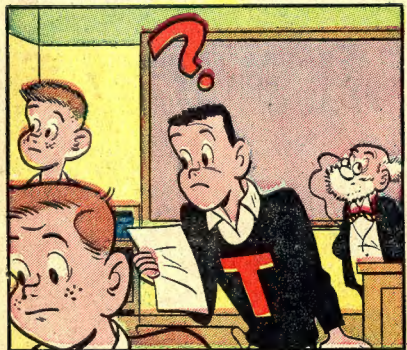
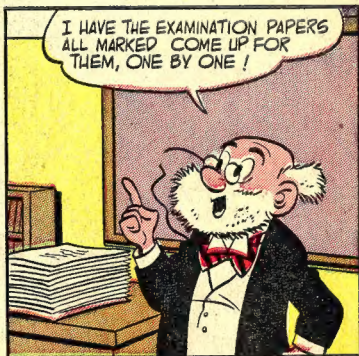
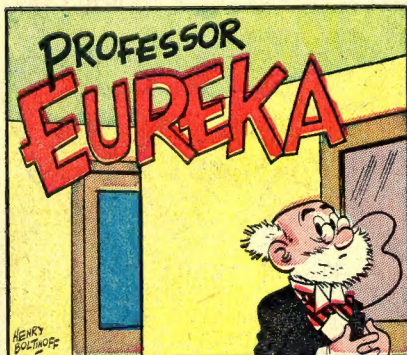
YOU'LL THRILL TO
TRIGGER-FAST ACTION
WITH AMERICA'S
HARD-BITTEN
FIGHTING MEN AS THEY
BLAST THEIR WAY ACROSS
FAR-FLUNG
BATTLE FRONTS
FOR THE
STARS AND STRIPES.



**ON SALE
Everywhere!**



**BE
SURE
TO GET
YOUR
COPY
EARLY!**



"Scram! You SKINNY Scarecrow!"

the boys shouted at me
ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGO!

"I was a SKINNY, scared, girl-shy skeleton.
Now I feel and look great. Pal, do as I did,
right NOW! Mail the Coupon below.

**I gained 53 lbs.
of MIGHTY MUSCLE**
8½ inches on my CHEST; 3 inches
on each ARM. You can do it in
10 minutes a day!"

Roger D. Hirsch —New York

YOU CAN WIN
THIS 15" TALL
SILVER TROPHY
AS THEY DID!
10 MINUTES
OF FUN A
DAY IS ALL
YOU NEED!

ROGER
HIRSCH
was an
112 lb. 6 ft.
weakling
LOOK AT HIM NOW!

"They used to call me,
'SKINNY, SKINNY'"

But look
at me now
—an All-
American
Jowett 'Cham-
pion'—says
John Sill, Utah, who
like millions, mailed
me 10c and a coupon
like the one below
YOU MAIL NOW!

"This is THE GREAT CHANGE You
made in me in 90 DAYS!
From a SKINNY WEAKLING to a MIGHTY
MAN. With ONE hand I can now lift
overhead a boy weighing 145 pounds.

I can bend a 1½
inch IRON BAR
around my neck.
Jowett gives you
muscle quality as
well as quantity."

Yours,

Jobie Jackson
ARKANSAS

"NOW, I am a NEW STRONG MAN.
It's wonderful! I never dreamed I
could live to have a big 49 inch
CHEST!! powerful 17 inch ARMS!! a
small 32 inch WAIST the big 17
inch difference between my chest
and waist attracts everybody's
admiration at the beach."

Felipe Mendoza
—CALIFORNIA

MAN! aren't YOU as SICK and
TIRED as I and thousands of
MIGHTY JOWETT HE-MEN
WERE OF BEING SKINNY?

Then, Come on, Pal, do as they did!
Give me 10 Pleasant Minutes a Day,
and I'll give YOU a NEW HE-MAN BODY
for your OLD SKELETON FRAME.

NO! I don't care how skinny or flabby you are; if
you're a teen-ager, in your 20's or 30's or over; if you're
short or tall, or what work you do. All I want is to MAKE
YOU OVER by the SAME METHOD I turned myself from a
wreck to a Champion of Champions.

YES! You'll see INCH upon INCH of MIGHTY MUSCLE
added to YOUR ARMS. Your CHEST deepened. Your BACK
AND SHOULDERS broadened. From head to heels, you'll gain
SOLIDITY, SIZE, POWER, SPEED! You'll become an ALL-
Around, ALL-American HE-MAN, a WINNER in everything you
tackle—or my Training won't cost you one single cent!

**Develop YOUR 520 MUSCLES
Gain Pounds, INCHES, FAST!**

Friend, I've traveled the world. Made a LIFETIME STUDY
of every way known to develop your body. Then I devised
the BEST by TEST, my "5-WAY PROGRESSIVE POWER" the
only method that builds you 5-ways fast. You save YEARS,
DOLLARS like movie star Tom Tyler did. Like Champ Roger
Hirsch... Like MANY THOUSANDS like you did, SO

HURRY TO MAIL COUPON!

How to Build
MIGHTY
ARMS

How to Build
A MIGHTY
CHEST

How to Build
A MIGHTY
BACK

FREE
Photo Book
How to Achieve
Nerves of Steel
Muscles of Iron

This may be YOUR LAST
chance to GET
AMAZING NATIONAL
EMERGENCY OFFER!

All these
5 Picture
Packed
COURSES
on He-Man
Building
while supply lasts!
MILLIONS have been
sold for \$1 & more

How to Build
MIGHTY
LEGS

How to Build
A MIGHTY
GRIP

How to BECOME A
MIGHTY HE-MAN

BOTH FREE FOR QUICK ACTION

1. Photo Book of STRONG MEN
2. MUSCLE METER

Dept. NC 210

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World for
Building
All-Around
HE-MEN!"
—R.F. Kelley
Physical
Director

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George: Send me FREE Photo Book of Strong
Men, a Muscle Meter, plus all 5 HE-MAN
Building Courses: 1. How to Build a Mighty
Chest; 2. Mighty Arm; 3. Mighty Grip; 4.
Mighty Back; 5. Mighty Legs—all in One
Volume "How to Become a Mighty He-Man."
I enclose 10c. (No C.O.D.'s)

NAME _____ AGE _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Tootsie Rolls'

GREAT BIG Contest

HURRY!

100 PRIZES

HURRY!

ARE YOU A GOOD PRIVATE EYE?

HOW MANY TOOTSIE CANDLES ARE MISSING FROM THIS STACK?



**PUZZLE
OR GAME
on EVERY
PAK...**



BOYS & GIRLS' BIKES



**10 COLUMBIA 3-STAR DELUXE
MODEL 191T MOTOBIKES**

There's real deluxe style and zip in this flashing Columbia Bicycle. 18" Therm-O-Matic Frame, Air-Flow Tank with Electric Horn, Full Length Air-Flow Chain Guard, Deeper wider Motobike Fenders, Lock Top Torpedo Headlight, Deluxe Tan Top Saddle, Columbia Non-Slip Handbar Grips.

**DELICIOUS CHEWY
TOOTSIE ROLL
CENTER**



**10
Sieger
CHUCK
WAGONS**

Tubular steel handle exclusive with Sieger... the famous Stake and Chuck wagon.

JUST FOLLOW THESE SIMPLE RULES:

1. Complete the statement (in 25 words or less) "I like TOOTSIE ROLLS (or TOOTSIE POPS) because..." On a plain sheet of paper—write or print CLEARLY—your name, street and number, city or town, state—and your age.
2. Send entry, accompanied with 5 wrappers from either TOOTSIE ROLLS or TOOTSIE POPS . . . to TOOTSIE ROLLS CONTEST, Box 877, New York 46, N. Y.
3. Send as many entries as you wish, but with each entry you must send 5 wrappers from TOOTSIE ROLLS or TOOTSIE POPS.
4. This contest is open only to boys and girls between the ages of 6 and 16—and is good only in Continental United States and in compliance with State Laws. Company employees and their families, agency employees and their families, are not eligible.
5. Entries will be judged for originality and sincerity for the particular age group; the youngest child has as much chance as the oldest. In case of ties duplicate prizes will be awarded. Decision of the judges will be final and all entries become the property of The Sweets Company of America, Inc. No entries will be returned.
6. CONTEST STARTS AUGUST 1, 1952 and ENDS OCTOBER 15th, so hurry—get your entry in . . . but first read these rules carefully. Entries must be postmarked before midnight, October 15, 1952 and received before midnight October 24, 1952. Winners will be notified by mail as soon as possible following selection of winners by the judges.

**10 Toni
DOLLS**

with washable Nylon hair that can be combed, set, waved and made up.

**"CHICAGO"
ROLLER SKATES
24 PAIRS**



The famous skates used in rinks throughout the country. Speedy. Ball-bearing Strong Construction.

**HEROMITE
10 Controlled-Power
MODEL PLANES**

Rugged Plastic Plane with miniature One-Cylinder Engine and Flight Control Unit.



**24
TRIPLE LINED
BASKETBALLS**
Made of Evercoid, a heavy coated pebble-grained fabric. Equipped with heavy duty valve bladders.



**12 FIELDER'S
GLOVES**

Deep-pocket glove, well-stitched fingers and thumb. A real glove!

CONTEST CLOSING OCTOBER 15, 1952

**HURRY! HURRY!
SEND IN YOUR ENTRY!**



FLATTERMANN